Please amend claims 4 and 8 as follows:

4. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a nucleotide sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO:1;

(c) a nucleotide sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO:3; and

(d) a nucleotide sequence that is completely complementary to a nucleotide sequence of (a)-(c).

A1

8. (Amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 4.

A2

Please add the following new claims 24-37:

-- 24. A process for producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 9 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide, and recovering said polypeptide.

25. An isolated polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 or the complement thereof.

A3

26. An isolated polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or the complement thereof.

27. An isolated polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO:3 or the complement thereof.

28. The vector of claim 8, wherein said vector is selected from the group consisting of a plasmid, a virus, and a bacteriophage.

29. The vector of claim 8, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is inserted into said vector in proper orientation and correct reading frame such that a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:2 may be expressed by a cell transformed with said vector.

30. The vector of claim 29, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is operatively linked to a promoter sequence.

A3

31. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a transcript/cDNA sequence that encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) SEQ ID NO:1; and

(c) a nucleotide sequence that is completely complementary to a nucleotide sequence of (a)-(b).

32. A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 31.

33. A host cell containing the vector of claim 32.

34. A process for producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 33 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide, and recovering said polypeptide.

35. The vector of claim 32, wherein said vector is selected from the group consisting of a plasmid, a virus, and a bacteriophage.

36. The vector of claim 32, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is inserted into said vector in proper orientation and correct reading frame such that a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:2 may be expressed by a cell transformed with said vector.

A3

37. The vector of claim 36, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is operatively linked to a promoter sequence. --